

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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12

ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 IGA-02 L-03 EA-11

RSC-01 DRC-01 /060 W

----- 033980

P R 210800Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1028

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS DACCA 4270

E O 11652 N/A

TAGS: EAID, BGEN, BG

SUBJECT: USAID CODE 941 PROCUREMENT - CEMENT

REF: A. DACCA 4060; B. DACCA 4207 (NOTAL); C. DACCA 1892 (NOTAL)

1. REF A CIRCULATED DETAILS INVITATION BID FOR SUPPLY 167,000 TONS CEMENT UNDER AID/FINANCED PROCUREMENT FROM CODE 941 COUNTRIES. WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT OF CIRCULATION GIVEN TENDER INQUIRY BY ACTION ADDRESSEES AND OF REACTION GENERATED; ALSO ESTIMATE PROSPECTS OF SUPPLY TO BANGLADESH.

2. AS INDICATED REF B, CEMENT SHORTAGE INCREASINGLY CRITICAL HERE. PRIME MINISTER HAS REPORTEDLY APPROVED DISPATCH OF SPECIAL CEMENT PURCHASING MISSION HEADED BY NURUL ISLAM, SECRETARY/FOREIGN TRADE. WOULD BE LEAVING SEPT 25/26 AND VISITING BANGKOK, MANILA AND POSSIBLY SEOUL (OCTOBER 4/5).

3. JOINT SECRETARY FOREIGN TRADE SYEDIHAMIN AHSAN HAD FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THREE COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED: (A) THAILAND - DESPITE EXPORT CONTROLS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE BEEN IMPOSED ON CEMENT, TENTATIVE OFFER OF 100,000 UNCLASSIFIED

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TONS REPORTEDLY MADE THROUGH LOCAL AGENCY (AJANTA INTER-

NATIONAL); THAI-BASED SUPPLIER NOT KNOWN.

(B) PHILIPPINES - PHILIPPINE EMBASSY/NEW DELHI TRADE TEAM HERE RECENTLY AND WAS TOLD OF CEMENT TENDER. AHSAN INDICATED THEY DID NOT PURSCUE MATTER.

(C) ROK - BANGLADESH AND SOUTH KOREA HAVE PERFORMED SOMETHING OF MINUET ON ECONOMIC/POLITICAL RELATIONS. FOLLOWING ROK CHIEF OF MISSION/DELHI VISIT TO DACCA TO SIGN PRELIMINARY TRADE AGREEMENT LAST APRIL (REF C), BANGLADESH DID NOT REPEAT NOT, AS SUGGESTED, SEND RETURN MISSION TO SEOUL TO INITIAL FORMAL AGREEMENT. INSTEAD ROK OBLIGED TO COME AGAIN TO DACCA TO SIGN IT IN JULY. BDG HAS SINCE TRIED TO COMPENSATE BY

(A) NOTIFYING ROK OF CLEARANCE FOR ROK TO OPEN TRADE MISSION DACCA, AND (B) BY PROPOSAL OF BD TRADE MISSION VISIT TO SEOUL MENTIONED ABOVE, PROVIDED SOME ASSURANCE MIGHT BE GIVEN AHEAD OF TIME THAT MISSION WOULD NOT RETURN EMPTYHANDED. WOULD SEEK PURCHASE COTTON TEXTILES AS WELL AS CEMENT. ROK, HOWEVER, REPORTEDLY HAS NOT YET AGREED TO DATES OF VISIT.

4. WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE AT LEAST INTERIM RESPONSE BY ACTION ADDRESSEES BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.
NEWBERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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